

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

Rusk and Home have each seen Gromyko twice. So far he has not budged from the old line about a peace treaty, and a "free city" of West Berlin. I fear West Berlin may die on the vine, unless a solution covering the whole city is reached, which every one here seems to think the Soviets will never accept. I counter that there may and should be ways to force them to do so. Reports indicate a recent large rise in the shipment of furniture, household articles, and valuables from Berlin to West Germany. Also, it would not surprise me if there had been an increase in the number of permanent removal of persons. The closing of the sector boundary has much significance for the Berliners than for foreigners.

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E. got word to her nieces, and I talked to Dr. Peterson, her surgeon. He said it was a bad break, and he would have to replace her hip joint with a kind of metal ball. Later we were informed that the operation had been successfully concluded.

Tonight we dined at the Arthur Schlesingers. The other guests were Sammy Hood, Mollie Bucchleuch, Henry Kissinger, Joe Alsop, Mary McCarthy (the authoress) and her husband, Mr. West. We had a delightful time, and did not bed down until one o'clock. Joe fulminated against many administration policies, against Goldwater, Nixon, Adlai Stevenson, and a score of other personalities, before ending on the note that he loved almost everybody and was an incurable optimist.

September 29, 1961 - Friday.

Fine day. Temperature 70°.

Had my consultation with Foy Kohler, then with Bill Tyler and others. Policy regarding Berlin is still unsettled; perhaps this is just as well. The newspaper men complain over not being informed what is mediated. At least there are security advantages in not telegraphing every suggestion to the enemy. Foy's group has done a comprehensive job of contingency planning.

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for citizens

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